

**CALIFORNIA RESEARCH BUREAU
CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY
Studies in the News**

California -- One Hundred Years Ago

May 1908 "Among the numerous handsome varieties of chalcedony known to occur in California, is a light blue variety sometimes called sapphire chalcedony. On some of the California beaches, notably Redondo and Hermosa, many interesting specimens of chalcedony are found among the pebbles that line the shore.... They are found in great profusion, are of different varieties of chalcedony and agate, and many of them are beautifully marked. Others are apparently of jasper and occasionally there is found a specimen of fossil coral. At Catalina many pretty pebbles are found at the beach. These are generally known as moonstones but are nothing more than nodules of quartz weathered out of rhyolitic rock." *Los Angeles Times* (May 15, 1908) pg. I15

1908 "Tin has been found in small quantities or has been reported from a number of widely separated localities in California. The occurrence of float tin has been reported in a tributary of the Klamath River in Siskiyou county. Small pieces of stream tin have been found near Weaverville, Trinity county... In Amador county, near the Mokelumne River, a five-foot vein carrying tin was discovered... Tin was discovered in the Temescal Mountains of San Bernardino county in 1853. This is the only really important occurrence of tin in this state.... In the 80s considerable work was done and a small amount of ore was mined and shipped. The enterprise evidently proved unprofitable as the property remained idle for many years." *Los Angeles Times* (May 15, 1908) pg. I15

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Introduction to Studies in the News

Studies in the News is a current compilation of items significant to the Legislature and Governor's Office. It is created weekly by the State Library's [California Research Bureau](#) to supplement the public policy debate in California. To help share the latest information with state policymakers, these reading lists are now being made accessible through the State Library's website. This week's list of

current articles in various public policy areas is presented below. Prior lists can be viewed from the California State Library's Web site at www.library.ca.gov/sitn

- When available, the URL for the full text of each item is provided.
- California State Employees may contact the State Information & Reference Center (916-654-0261; csinfo@library.ca.gov) with the SITN issue number and the item number [S#].
- All other interested individuals should contact their local library - the items may be available there, or may be borrowed by your local library on your behalf.

The following studies are currently on hand:

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Juvenile Delinquency Court Assessment: Final Report. By the Center for Families, Children & the Courts, Judicial Council of California. (The Center, San Francisco, California) April 2008.

["Juvenile delinquency courts are plagued by too many cases, too few services for troubled youth and a total bewilderment among many families involved. The report, after what officials are calling the most comprehensive review of its kind, focused on six counties. But its conclusions -- and a list of 58 recommendations -- apply throughout the state.... The report found a disturbing lack of programs for youthful offenders, including inadequate mental health care, drug treatment and services tailored to teenage girls.... Among the most sobering of findings was the degree to which parents and youthful offenders find the system incomprehensible. In its haste, the overwhelmed system forgets its most critical players." San Jose Mercury News (April 26, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-22-2194]

Report. Various pagings.

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc/resources/publications/JuvenileDelinquency.htm>

Executive Summary. 10 p.

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc/pdffiles/JDCA2008V1Exec.pdf>

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LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Community Justice Center: Assessment of the Proposed Center. By the San Francisco Office of the Controller. (The Office, San Francisco, California) April 24, 2008. 34 p.

Full text at:

http://www.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/controller/reports/CJC_ReportF.pdf

["The yearlong quest to build a court to tackle quality-of-life crimes in the city's blighted Tenderloin and South of Market neighborhoods has yet to determine exactly how the court would work and how it would be funded.... The controller found the overall idea of the court to be a good one.... The report said the crimes most likely to be handled by the court include possession of drug paraphernalia, prostitution, public drunkenness, vandalism and trespassing. The idea of the court is to understand the underlying issues, such as substance abuse, homelessness or unemployment, that may be contributing to the crimes, and offer social services to offenders so they don't cycle in and out of jail indefinitely." San Francisco Chronicle (April 25, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-22-2187]

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Alcohol Outlets as Attractors of Violence and Disorder: A Closer Look at the Neighborhood Environment. By Caterina Gouvis Roman and others, Justice Policy Center, Urban Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) April 30, 2008. 156 p.

Full text at: http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411663_alcohol_outlets.pdf

["This report investigates the relationship between alcohol availability, type of alcohol establishment, distribution policies and violence and disorder at the block group level in the District of Columbia. We test whether density of alcohol outlets influences: 1) aggravated assault incidents, 2) calls for service for social 'disorder' offenses, and 3) calls for service for a domestic incident, and examine variation in outcomes by time of day/day of week.... The findings indicate that on-premise outlets, but not off-premise outlets are a significant predictor of aggravated assault."]
[Request #S08-22-2221]

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DEMOGRAPHY

IMMIGRANTS

Los Angeles on the Leading Edge: Immigrant Integration Indicators and Their Policy Implications. By Michael Fix and others, Migration Policy Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) April 2008. 74 p.

Full text at:

http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/NCIIP_Los_Angeles_on_the_Leading_Edge.pdf

["The immigrant workers needed to fill many of the boomer jobs lack the English-language skills and basic educational levels to do so. Many immigrants are ill-equipped to fill California's fastest-growing positions, including computer software engineers, registered nurses and customer service representatives.... The looming mismatch in the skills employers need and those workers offer could jeopardize the future economic vitality of California and the nation, experts say. Los Angeles County, the largest immigrant metropolis with about 3.5 million foreign-born residents, is at the forefront of this demographic trend." Los Angeles Times (April 21, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-22-2170]

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ECONOMY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Artist Space Development: Making the Case. By Maria Rosario Jackson and Florence Kabwasa-Green, Urban Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) 2007. 56 p.

Full text at: http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/1001176_asd_case.pdf

["The development of affordable spaces for artists to live and/or work is certainly an important matter for artists, but it can also be an important issue for people concerned with a range of social issues, including economic development, civic engagement, community collective action, and community quality of life. This report considers how artist space developments have been positioned and the arguments made to garner support for them, the advocacy strategies used, and the impacts claimed or anticipated."]

[Request #S08-22-2164]

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INFLATION

Food Price Inflation: Causes and Impacts. By Tom Capehart and Joe Richardson, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. (The Service, Washington, DC) April 6, 2008. 6 p.

Full text at: http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RS22859_20080410.pdf

["U.S. food prices rose 4% in 2007 and are expected to gain 3.5% to 4.5% in 2008. Farm commodity prices have surged because: 1) demand for corn for ethanol is competing with food and feed for acreage; 2) global food grain and oilseed supplies are low due to poor harvests; 3) the weak dollar has increased U.S. exports; 4) rising incomes in large, rapidly emerging economies have changed eating habits; and 5) input costs have increased.... Higher food costs impact domestic food assistance efforts in numerous ways depending on whether benefits are indexed, enrollments are limited, or additional funds are made available. Higher food and transportation costs also reduce the impact of U.S. contributions of food aid under current budget constraints."]

[Request #S08-22-2220]

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TELECOMMUTING

Telework in the Information Age: Building a More Flexible Workforce and a Cleaner Environment. By Matthew Kazmierczak and Josh James, American Electronics Association. (The Association, Washington, DC) April 2008. 4 p.

Full text at: http://www.aeanet.org/publications/AeA_CS_Telework.asp

["An estimated 1.35 billion gallons of gasoline could be conserved annually if every U.S. worker with the ability to telecommute did so 1.6 days per week.... In addition to benefiting the environment and employees, 'teleworking,' has advantages for employers. After surveying 1,400 chief financial officers, 50 percent said telework arrangements are the second-best recruiting inducement, after salary. One-third classified it as the best incentive.... Nine out of 10 times the impetus for such efforts comes from a company's leadership that sees some business advantage to the move. These include lower office occupancy costs, quicker and less costly recruitment, and better retention of valued employees." San Francisco Chronicle (April 22, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-22-2148]

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EDUCATION

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

After-School Programs and Academics: Implications for Policy, Practice, and Research. By Robert C. Granger, William T. Grant Foundation. (Society for Research in Child Development, Ann Arbor, Michigan) 2008. 20 p.

Full text at: http://www.srkd.org/documents/publications/spr/22-2_afterschool_programs.pdf

["Should after-school programs be required to have a positive impact on academic outcomes? Will such an expectation crowd out other important goals and turn after-school programs into an unappealing version of the school day?... It is clear that to be effective, programs should actively involve participants, be intentional about their goals, and focus on the interactions between youth and staff. If positive academic outcomes are one of those goals, programs may need to include specific activities that are focused on academic achievement, but the approach should build on the opportunities presented by the out-of-school setting. The report concludes by identifying some promising approaches to program improvement ."]
[Request #S08-22-2171]

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CLASS SIZE REDUCTION

Class-Size Reduction: Policy, Politics, and Implications for Equity. By Douglas D. Ready, Columbia University. (The Campaign for Educational Equity, New York, New York) April 2008. 32 p.

Full text at:
http://www.tcequity.org/i/a/document/6863_Ready_Class_Size_Research_Review.pdf

["The rationales offered California and Florida officials is that smaller classes lead to improved student achievement, particularly among disadvantaged children. For these ideal outcomes to be realized, however, the initiatives must replicate both the program and the conditions under which the randomized experiments were conducted. Both states, however, have found it difficult to maintain fidelity to the conditions of the original studies.... Even when local policymakers agree on these program specifics, one question inevitably remains: is the creation of smaller classes the most efficient means to improve public schooling and enhance educational equity?"]
[Request #S08-22-2173]

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EMPLOYMENT

JOB CREATION

Greener Pathways: Jobs and Workforce Development in the Clean Energy Economy. By Sarah White and Jason Walsh, Center on Wisconsin Strategy. (The Center, Madison, Wisconsin) March 2008.

["This report talks about the kind and quality of jobs in the clean energy economy; the skills needed to fill these jobs; and how existing plants and their workers -- especially those in the beleaguered industrial heartland -- can move to the center of the clean energy economy.... It explores current economic and workforce development opportunities in three leading industries: energy efficiency, wind, and biofuels. The report also highlights federal resources that can support state green jobs initiatives, and concludes by outlining a plan of action for state policymakers"]
[Request #S08-22-2225]

Report. 64 p.

<http://www.cows.org/pdf/rp-greenerpathways.pdf>

Executive Summary. 6 p.

<http://www.cows.org/pdf/ex-greenerpathways.pdf>

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JOB CREATION

Green-Collar Jobs in America's Cities: Building Pathways Out of Poverty and Careers in the Clean Energy Economy. By Kate Gordon and Jermy Hays, Apollo Alliance. (The Alliance, San Francisco, California) March 2008. 24 p.

Full text at: <http://www.apolloalliance.org/downloads/greencollarjobs.pdf>

["Unfortunately, America's growing green economy faces a looming labor shortage in sectors like manufacturing, construction and installation.... Clearly if America is to rise to the global energy challenge, and capture the economic opportunity it represents, we need to prepare the next generation of Americans for the important work that lies ahead. Green jobs exist, and are growing, in a range of industries and at every skill and wage level.... This report offers guidance on how cities can link residents to green-collar jobs: family-supporting, careertrack jobs in green industries. We hope it will help cities across America develop strategies to expand their green economies, and connect the promise of the global clean energy future to the practical realities of local green economic and workforce development."]
[Request #S08-22-2226]

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NURSES

California Nurse Education Initiative: Annual Report 2007. By the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency. (The Agency, Sacramento, California) March 2008. 20 p.

Full text at: <http://www.labor.ca.gov/pdf/NEI2ndAnnualReport2007.pdf>

["California nursing programs are projected to graduate nearly 10,400 registered nurses this year -- a 68 percent increase since the 2003-04 academic year. The study attributes the increase to the California Nurse Education Initiative. The program has led to the creation of 23 nursing education programs and a 24.7 percent increase in nursing students. The state's community colleges account for about 70 percent of registered nurse graduates.... California has 647 registered nurses per 100,000 residents. This is an increase from 589 RNs per 100,000 residents in 2005. The state study projects California will surpass the national average of 825 RNs per 100,000 residents by 2022 if current efforts to expand nursing education are sustained." San Francisco Chronicle (May 10, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-22-2227]

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ENERGY

ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Modeling of Greenhouse Gas Reduction Measures to Support the Implementation of the California Global Warming Solutions Act (AB32): Draft. By Ralph Torrie, ICF Consulting Canada, Inc. Prepared for the California Air Resources Board. (The Board, Sacramento,

Full text at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/economics-sp/models/CA_Assumptions_Book_31March08.pdf

["ENERGY 2020 is an integrated multi-region energy model that provides complete and detailed, all-fuel demand and supply sector simulations... It captures the unique characteristics (physical, institutional and cultural) that affect how people make choices and use energy. Collections of state and provincial models are currently validated from 1986 to the latest quarterly numbers...The model will be used to develop a Reference Case of expected GreenHouse Gas emissions under a business-as-usual scenario over the next two decades. The ARB will then be able to model proposed policies for comparison with this Reference Case in order to determine the extent to which such policies could reduce future emissions."]
[Request #S08-22-2199]

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ENERGY POLICY

EPA Analysis of the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act of 2008. By the Office of Atmospheric Programs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (The Office, Washington, DC) March 14, 2008. 189 p.

Full text at:

http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/downloads/s2191_EPA_Analysis.pdf

["The leading congressional proposal to control greenhouse-gas emissions could be implemented without significantly harming the nation's economic growth over the next two decades, according to an analysis published by the Bush administration. It predicts gasoline and electric prices would rise more rapidly if the U.S. were to implement the Lieberman-Warner bill. Gross domestic product -- the total value of goods and services produced in the nation -- would grow 80% from 2010 to 2030, one percentage point less than its growth in the absence of the bill." Wall Street Journal (March 17, 2008) A2.]

[Request #S08-22-2110]

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PETROLEUM

Cost, Conflict and Climate: U.S. Challenges in the World Oil Market. By Severin Borenstein, University of California Energy Institute. (The Institute, Berkeley, California) January 2008. 20 p.

Full text at: <http://www.ucei.berkeley.edu/PDF/csemwp177.pdf>

["It is critical to recognize the distinctions and relationships among the three challenges that U.S. oil consumption presents: the economic impact of high oil prices, the geopolitical effects of large wealth transfers to some oil-producing countries, and the contribution to global climate change caused by burning oil and its refined products. These are often treated as a single issue in the policy debate and media coverage, but they are in fact quite distinct. Addressing any one of these challenges can help or hinder progress on the others."]

[Request #S08-22-1757]

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ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

AGRICULTURE

Putting Meat on The Table: Industrial Farm Animal Production in America.
By the Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production. (The
Commission, Washington, DC) April 2008.

["Factory farms are too crowded and risk spreading disease within livestock and to humans, but should be revamped and not abolished because of the need to feed the world. ... Another health risk posed to humans by the current methods of industrial farming is the use of antibiotics to spur the growth of animals... Industrial livestock production also hurts the environment through the huge amounts of animal waste these facilities produce.... The commission urges legislators to ban the non-therapeutic use of antibiotics in food animal production, implement a new system to deal with farm waste, and phase out the most inhumane production practices within a decade." Reuters (April 30, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-22-2185]

Report. 124 p.

http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Industrial_Agriculture/PCIFAP_FINAL.pdf

Executive Summary. 35 p.

<http://www.ncifap.org/images/PCIFAP%20EXECUTIVE%20SUMMARY.pdf>

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AIR POLLUTION

Removal Rates of Particulate Matter onto Vegetation as a Function of Particle Size. By Erin Fujii and Jonathan Lawton, University of California, Davis.
Prepared for Breathe California of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails and the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District. (Breathe California, Sacramento, California) April 30, 2008.

["Laboratory experiments confirm that certain trees are highly effective in filtering and dispersing some of the most toxic particles in auto exhaust. The findings suggest health risks in neighborhoods and schools near heavy traffic can be cut significantly by flanking the roadways with tall evergreens.... The study is considered the first to test the theory that certain

trees can protect people from inhaling invisible exhaust specks. The very factors that make these particles dangerous to breathe make them stick to needles and leaves. The particles are small enough to evade the lung's defenses and enter the bloodstream, raising the risk of heart disease as well as respiratory illness." Sacramento Bee (May 6, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-22-2205]

Study. 47 p.

<http://sacbreathe.org/Local%20Studies/Vegetation%20Study.pdf>

Summary. 1 p.

<http://sacbreathe.org/Local%20Studies/Vegetation%20Study%20Summary.pdf>

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ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

Interference at the EPA: Science and Politics at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. By the Union of Concerned Scientists. (The Union, Cambridge, Massachusetts) April 2008. 108 p.

Full text at:

http://www.ucsusa.org/assets/documents/scientific_integrity/Interference-at-the-EPA.pdf

["More than half of the scientists at the EPA who responded to a survey said they had experienced political interference in their work.... Such allegations are not new: During much of the Bush administration, there have been reports of the White House watering down documents on climate change, industry language inserted into EPA power-plant regulations and scientific advisory panels' conclusions about toxic chemicals going unheeded.... The survey respondents were split over the impact of political interference on regulations. According to the report, 48% believed that the EPA's actions were 'frequently or always' consistent with scientific findings, and 47% believed that agency policy 'occasionally, seldom or never' made use of scientific judgments." Los Angeles Times (April 24, 2008) A10.]
[Request #S08-22-2169]

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GENERAL GOVERNMENT

TAXES

Bay Area Cellular Telephone Company, et al. v. City of Union City. California Court of Appeal, First Appellate District. A114956. April 29, 2008. 15 p.

Full text at: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/opinions/documents/A114956.PDF>

["A three-judge panel tossed out Union City's fee, which amounts to \$3.22 a phone line each month. Because the fees apply to all phone users, not just those calling 911, the charge amounts to a tax -- and therefore should have been put before voters for approval.... Because a different district court had earlier reached the opposite conclusion -- that a fee in Santa Cruz County was an acceptable 'user fee' -- the state Supreme Court is likely to be asked to weigh in on who's right. Such fees are catching on quickly as a way to fund the cost of 911 dispatchers and emergency services.... The Santa Cruz County fee gave San Jose cover but the Union City decision has more legal weight, since the earlier ruling was not published and therefore does not set an official precedent. " San Jose Mercury News (May 1, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-22-2190]

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VOTERS & VOTING

Integration Potential of California's Immigrants and Their Children: New Estimates of Potential New Voters at the State, County, and Legislative District Levels. By Rob Paral and Associates. Prepared for the California Immigrant Integration Initiative of Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees. (The Grantmakers, Sebastopol, California) April 2008. 26 p.

Full text at: <http://www.gcir.org/system/files/New+Immigrant+Voter+Report.pdf>

["In the first detailed analysis of potential immigrant voters and their children in California legislative districts, a study shows they could constitute nearly one-third of state voters by 2012.... Los Angeles County dwarfed all others with about 2.7 million potential pro-immigrant voters -- naturalized U.S. citizens, legal immigrants eligible for citizenship and their children ages 12 to 17 -- followed by Orange, Santa Clara and San Diego counties. Statewide, the total was nearly 7.7 million.... The immigrant voters and their teenage children, who are overwhelmingly Latino and Asian American, made up about one-third of the electorate in state Assembly and Senate districts held by Democrats and about one-fifth of Republican districts." Los Angeles Times (April 29, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-22-2183]

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HEALTH

EMERGENCY CARE

"Can There Be a Consensus on Critical Care in Disasters?" By Dennis Amundson. IN: Chest: Journal of the American College of Chest Physicians, vol 133, no. 5 (May 2008) pp. 1065-1066.

Full text at: http://www.chestjournal.org/content/vol133/5_suppl/index.shtml

["Doctors know some patients needing lifesaving care won't get it in a flu pandemic or other disaster. A group of physicians has drafted a specific list of recommendations for which patients wouldn't be treated. They include... elderly, seriously hurt trauma victims, severely burned patients and those with severe dementia. The idea is to try to make sure that scarce resources -- including ventilators, medicine and doctors and nurses -- are used in a uniform, objective way, task force members said." San Francisco Chronicle, (May 5, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-22-2211]

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PUBLIC HEALTH

Assessing the Region Via Indicators: Public Health and Access to Care, Second Edition. By Patricia Porter and others, The Great Valley Center. (The Center, Modesto, California) May 2008. 46 p.

Full text at:
http://www.greatvalley.org/publications/GVC_Health_Indicators_Report_08_Conference_Edition.pdf

["Central Valley residents lack doctors and other medical specialists, are more likely to die of diabetes and heart attacks, and face diminished well-being because of poverty. Researchers assessed more than two dozen health care indicators, from health insurance coverage and a shortage of physicians to infants' low birth weight and rising childhood asthma rates, and compared the indicators with the state average.... The report offers a few bright spots in the 18 counties from Shasta to Kern: Smoking rates are down, more children are being immunized and heart disease has declined in some areas.... Even as the smoking rate has declined, that habit among Central Valley residents is still more prevalent than in the rest of the state. Binge drinking rates also are higher." Sacramento Bee (May 9, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-22-2213]

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SMOKING

"Local Restaurant Smoking Regulations and the Adolescent Smoking Initiation Process." By Michael Siegel and others. IN: Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, vol. 162, no. 5 (May 6, 2008) pp. 477-483.

Full text at: <http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/reprint/162/5/477>

["Youths who lived in towns with strict smoking bans were 40 percent less likely to become regular smokers than those in communities with no bans or weak ones. Reseachers tracked children between ages 12 and 17 who lived throughout Massachusetts. There were no statewide restrictions when the study began in 2001, but about 100 cities and towns had enacted a hodgepodge of laws restricting smoking in workplaces, bars or restaurants. The teens were followed for four years.... Overall, about 9 percent became regular smokers. Having a smoker as a parent or a close friend was a factor in predicting whether children experiment with cigarettes. But strong bans.... reduced their chances of becoming smokers by 40 percent." San Francisco Chronicle (May 6, 2008) A4.]
[Request #S08-22-2209]

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HOUSING

REAL ESTATE LOANS

Foreclosures in California: The Current Housing Crisis is More Severe than Previous Corrections. By Rani Isaac, California Research Bureau, California State Library. CRB-08-006. (The Bureau, Sacramento, California) May 2008. 11 p

Full text at http: <http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/08/08-006.pdf>

["The estimate of housing foreclosures in California during the current cycle, spanning the three years 2006 – 09, varies from 170,000 to 434,000. Therefore, foreclosures will affect between 3.0 and 7.8 percent of all homeowners with mortgages in the state by 2009, or by 2010, if the cycle is drawn out. The variation in the forecast results from variation in the data and assumptions.... A look back at the previous foreclosure cycle shows a long, less severe correction, which peaked at 15,418 foreclosures in Q3 of 1996. In the six years ending in Q4 of 1998, the state experienced 301,188 foreclosures.... Since this housing crisis is much more extreme than previous corrections, the recovery may not follow the same path as previous recoveries. In fact, some observers are comparing this cycle to the one experienced during the Great Depression, since this is the first cycle since then in which home prices have fallen throughout the nation."]

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HUMAN SERVICES

HOMELESS

Human Services Agency: Care Not Cash Is Achieving Its Goals. By the San Francisco Office of the Controller. (The Office, San Francisco, California) April 30, 2008. 46 p.

Full text at:

http://www.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/controller/reports/CareNotCash_20080430.pdf

["Care Not Cash, the controversial San Francisco program that provides homeless people with housing and services instead of monthly lump sums of cash, is largely a success four years after it premiered. The program is serving its target population, shifting significant amounts of money from cash payments and into mental health and substance abuse services. The program has also added more than 1,300 units of affordable housing for homeless San Franciscans. ... People who are offered permanent housing rarely refuse it, according to the audit. Five months before Care Not Cash took effect, 2,632 people were receiving cash payments. By December 2007, that dropped to 642." San Francisco Chronicle (May 1, 2008) 1.]
[Request #S08-22-2188]

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HOMELESS

Changes in Homelessness, Supportive Housing, and Tenant Characteristics Since 2005. By Martha R. Burt, Urban Institute. Prepared for the Corporation for Supportive Housing. (The Corporation, Los Angeles, California) April 2008. 31 p.

Full text at: http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/1001177_hilton_foundation.pdf

["An initial report was made to document baseline levels of homelessness and the efforts made by agencies in L.A. County fighting homelessness. This report is an update of that initial evaluation report.... 1) 14,000 more permanent supportive housing units are needed in L.A. County to end chronic homelessness. 2) The vast majority of permanent supportive housing tenants surveyed were single adults; families made up 5%. 3) 67% of permanent supportive housing tenants in L.A. County had a serious mental illness in 2007, compared to 55% in 2004. 4) For fiscal year 2007, permanent supportive housing projects in LA County received \$28.6 million in funding (for operating resources) compared to \$25.7 million in 2004"]
[Request #S08-22-2210]

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POVERTY

Seizing the Moment: State Governments and the New Commitment to Reduce Poverty In America. By Jodie Levin-Epstein, Center for Law and Social Policy, and Kristen Michelle Gorzelany, Georgetown Public Policy Institute. (The Center, Washington, DC)) April 2008. 53 p.

Full text at: http://clasp.org/publications/clasp_report_0414.pdf

['State governments are bringing political attention to poverty and opportunity in many ways, including poverty-reduction targets that set a specific goal and timeline; commissions that conclude with recommendations for action; legislative caucuses that seek to foster both legislators' expertise and bipartisan solutions; and government-sponsored summits. The trend includes city governments, too"]

[Request #S08-22-2154]

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TEEN PREGNANCY

Safely Surrendered Baby Law: Stronger Guidance From the State and Better Information for the Public Could Enhance Its Impact. By the California Bureau of State Audits. (The Bureau, Sacramento, California) April 2008. 83 p.

Full text at: <http://www.bsa.ca.gov/pdfs/reports/2007-124.pdf>

["California's 'safe surrender' program, allowing parents to leave unwanted newborns at fire stations and hospitals without penalty, has become an orphan....The report said that money and the assignment of responsibility to a state agency were needed if California was to be successful in preventing the dumping of newborns, many of whom do not survive. 'The safe-surrender law.... does not give state agencies rigorous, ongoing responsibilities for publicizing the law's benefits, and the state has not funded the administration or promotion of a safe-surrender program'" Los Angeles Times (April 30, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-22-2198]

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TRANSPORTATION

CALIFORNIA

Proposed Final 2008 Regional Transportation Plan (2008 RTP): Making the Connections. By the Southern California Council of Governments. (The Council, Los Angeles, California) May 2008.

["Success in transportation and transportation planning is about making the connections, whether it's connecting from bike to bus or truck to rail; relating the travel choices we make with environmental consequences; ensuring that land-use and transportation planning go hand-in-hand, or more equitably linking our transportation financing mechanisms to those who benefit directly from use of the system.... Nearly all natural locations for urban development have been consumed, leaving us with hard choices about how we are to grow and change to meet the demands of the future... . Nearly one-half of all Californians live in the SCAG Region, and 1 in 17 people living in the entire United States reside here. By July 1, 2007, the region's population had reached 18.6 million residents."]
[Request #S08-22-2214]

Proposed Final Plan. 218 p.

<http://www.scag.ca.gov/rtp2008/final.htm>

Executive Summary. 25 p.

http://www.scag.ca.gov/rtp2008/pdfs/PFinalrtp/PFinal_2008RTP_ExecSum.pdf

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DRIVERS

What to Expect from California's New Hands-Free Law. By Jed Kolko, Public Policy Institute of California. (The Institute, San Francisco, California) May 2008. 30 p.

Full text at: http://www.pplic.org/content/pubs/op/OP_508JKOP.pdf

["California's new hands-free cell phone law could save 300 lives a year. Similar laws in other states already have saved lives. In particular, those laws have helped reduce the number of deaths from accidents that occurred in bad weather, on wet roads or during rush-hour.... New York, New Jersey,

Connecticut and the District of Columbia enacted hands-free laws before California.... The effect was inconsistent over time. But data from New York, which in 2001 enacted the first hands-free law, suggest that it holds up over the long term.... Kolko's research doesn't explain why hands-free laws lower traffic related deaths. There's not enough data yet to know, he said." San Jose Mercury News (May 13, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-22-2229]

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